

Last revised April 3, 2023

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Francisco Division

STANDING ORDER FOR MAGISTRATE JUDGE LAUREL BEELER

Parties must comply with the procedures in the Federal Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure, the local rules, the general orders, this standing order, and the Northern District's standing order for civil cases titled "Contents of Joint Case Management Statement." The rules are available at <http://www.cand.uscourts.gov>. The parties' failure to comply with the rules may be a ground for monetary sanctions, dismissal, entry of judgment, or other appropriate sanctions.

CALENDAR DATES AND SCHEDULING

Motions are heard on Thursdays: civil motions at 9:30 a.m., criminal motions at 10:30 a.m., and pretrial conferences at 1:00 p.m. Hearings are in person for civil cases if all parties agree and in person for criminal cases unless there is a ground for a videoconference. The court may notify the parties that an in-person hearing will be set on a different day. The parties may notice motions (other than discovery motions, discussed below) under the local rules for any available Thursday on the court's calendar (at <http://www.cand.uscourts.gov>).

Case-management conferences are by videoconference on Thursdays: criminal cases at 10:30 a.m. and civil cases at 11:00 a.m. Civil case-management conferences are not recorded unless a party asks or is appearing pro se.

1 Depending on its schedule, the court may reset or vacate hearings. For scheduling questions,
2 please contact courtroom deputy Elaine Kabiling at lbcrd@cand.uscourts.gov or 415-522-3140.

3 4 **CHAMBERS COPIES**

5 If filings are voluminous, then the parties must lodge chambers copies that are double-side
6 printed and three-hole punched. They must be the electronically filed copies with the
7 PACER/ECF-generated header (case number, docket number, date, and ECF page number).
8 Exhibits must be tabbed and have a table of contents. If the paper copies are more than two inches
9 thick, then the parties must submit them in a binder.

10 In addition to paper copies, hyperlinked electronic copies should be submitted if feasible when
11 the supporting documents are lengthy. Any pinpoint citations in the briefs must link to the specific
12 page in the supporting exhibit. PDF briefs and bookmarked exhibits must be emailed to
13 lbpo@cand.uscourts.gov. If the file is too large to email, please lodge a thumb drive or share
14 access to a cloud-based hosting platform that allows court employees to download files.

15 Otherwise, the parties do not need to submit paper copies and instead can email a chambers
16 PDF copy to lbpo@cand.uscourts.gov. Parties do not need to submit electronic copies of
17 certificates of service, certificates of interested entities or persons, consents or declinations to the
18 court's jurisdiction, stipulations that do not require a court order (*see* Civil Local Rule 6-1), or
19 notices of appearance or substitution of counsel.

20 21 **CASE MANAGEMENT**

22 **1. Less-Experienced Lawyers**

23 The court encourages parties to give less-experienced lawyers an opportunity to participate in
24 all court proceedings and to let the court know during the scheduling process.

25 26 **2. Discovery**

27 **2.1 Privilege Logs**

28 If a party withholds material as privileged, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(5), it must produce a

1 privilege log that is sufficiently detailed for the opposing party to assess whether the assertion of
 2 privilege is justified. The log must be produced as quickly as possible but no later than fourteen
 3 days after the party's disclosures or discovery responses are due unless the parties stipulate to, or
 4 the court sets, another date. Privilege logs must contain the following: (a) the title and description
 5 of the document, the number of pages, and the Bates-number range, if any; (b) the subject matter
 6 or general nature of the communication (without disclosing its contents); (c) the identity and
 7 position of its author; (d) the date of the communication; (e) the identity and position of the
 8 recipients of the communication; (f) the location where the document was found; (g) the specific
 9 basis for the assertion that the document is privileged or protected (including a brief summary of
 10 any supporting facts); and (h) the steps taken to ensure the confidentiality of the communication,
 11 including an affirmation that no unauthorized persons received the communication.

12 **2.2 Discovery Disputes**

13 If parties have a discovery dispute, then counsel must confer by any means to resolve or narrow
 14 their dispute. If that process does not resolve the dispute, then lead trial counsel must confer in
 15 person if possible or at least by videoconference. Either party may demand a conference with one
 16 week's notice. The parties then may raise their dispute in a five-page letter brief (12-point font or
 17 greater, reasonable margins, and page breaks between paragraphs). Lead trial counsel for both
 18 parties must sign the letter and attest that they met and conferred in person or by videoconference.

19 The letter must discuss each dispute separately: each section must have one issue and (1)
 20 describe the unresolved issue, (2) summarize each party's position (with citations to the facts and
 21 legal authority), and (3) provide each party's final proposed compromise. The parties may submit
 22 supporting declarations and documentation of up to fifteen pages.

23 After the parties submit their dispute, then the court will determine the next steps, including
 24 issuing a ruling, ordering more briefing, or setting a hearing.

25 For discovery disputes involving third parties (usually under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure
 26 45), the parties must try to use these procedures and at least must meet and confer (if possible) in
 27 person or by videoconference for any dispute. If they cannot agree to these procedures, then the
 28 moving party must file a noticed motion under the local rules and include in the notice a statement

about its compliance with these procedures.

For emergencies during events such as depositions, the parties may contact the court under Civil Local Rule 37-1(b) by calling courtroom deputy Elaine Kabiling at 415-522-3140 and sending a joint email describing the dispute to lbrd@cand.uscourts.gov and lbpo@cand.uscourts.gov.

3. Amended Pleadings

If a party files an amended pleading, it must file as an attachment a blackline compare of the amended pleading against the operative pleading.

4. Case-Management Statements

The first joint case-management conference statement in a case must have the information in the Northern District's standing order titled "Contents of Joint Case Management Statement." Subsequent statements need not repeat information in earlier statements and preferably will have only new information.

5. Summary-Judgment Motions

The parties may not file separate statements of undisputed facts. *See* Civil Local Rule 56-2. Joint statements of undisputed facts are not required but are helpful. Any joint statement must include — for each undisputed fact — citations to admissible evidence.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 3, 2023



LAUREL BEELER
United States Magistrate Judge